

Issue NE-CW2904, released July 19, 2004, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541 or e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov. Homepage - <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending July 18, 2004, warmer temperatures, more humid conditions, and limited rainfall kept row crop development progressing at a faster than normal pace, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Wheat and oat harvest was slowed due to weather conditions. Other producer activities included weed control, irrigation activities, and hay harvest.

Weather Summary: Temperatures for the week averaged from 5 degrees below normals in the eastern third of the state to 3 degrees above normals in the western two-thirds. Precipitation was statewide with amounts generally less than one inch, but ranged to over 2 inches.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending July 18, 2004

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Topsoil				
Very Short	9	9	15	26
Short	25	16	39	32
Adequate	64	69	46	41
Surplus	2	6	0	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	23	31	15	27
Short	27	27	43	31
Adequate	49	41	42	42
Surplus	1	1	0	0
Days Suitable	5.5	3.3	6.7	6.4

Field Crops Report: Corn condition rated 1 percent very poor, 2 poor, 14 fair, 50 good, and 33 excellent, above last year and average. Irrigated fields rated 85 percent good and excellent while dryland fields rated 82. This compares to 83 and 60, respectively, a year ago. Silking was 49 percent complete, ahead of last year at 33 and average at 40. Three percent of the acreage had reached the dough stage, ahead of last year at 1 but the same as average.

Soybeans condition rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 15 fair, 60 good, and 20 excellent, above last year and average. Sixty-five percent of the acreage had bloomed, ahead of last year at 39 and average at 50. Eleven percent had set pods, ahead of last year at 2 and average at 9.

Sorghum condition improved and rated zero percent very poor, 2 poor, 24 fair, 54 good, and 20 excellent, above last year and average. One percent had headed out, behind last year at 2 and average at 7.

Wheat was ripe on 88 percent of the acreage, behind last year at 90 and average at 92. Harvest progressed to 65 percent completed, behind last year at 73 and average at 78. Sprout damage continued to be a problem for some producers.

Oat condition improved and rated 11 percent very poor, 11 poor, 22 fair, 45 good, and 11 excellent. Harvest progressed to 24 percent cut, behind last year at 40 and average at 49.

Dry beans condition rated 3 percent very poor, 13 poor, 33 fair, 40 good, and 11 excellent. Eleven percent of the acreage had bloomed, behind last year at 32 and average at 34.

Alfalfa conditions rated 6 percent very poor, 9 poor, 25 fair, 46 good, and 14 excellent, below last year but above average. Second cutting activities were 73 percent harvested, the same as last year but behind average at 77. Wild hay condition rated 14 percent very poor, 7 poor, 23 fair, 46 good, and 10 excellent.

Crop Progress : Nebraska, Week Ending July 18, 2004

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	73	48	73	77
Corn Silked	49	18	33	40
Corn Dough	3	0	1	3
Oats Harvested	24	9	40	49
Sorghum Headed	1	0	2	7
Soybeans Blooming	65	44	39	50
Soybeans Setting Pods	11	3	2	9
Wheat Ripe	88	77	90	92
Wheat Harvested	65	45	73	78

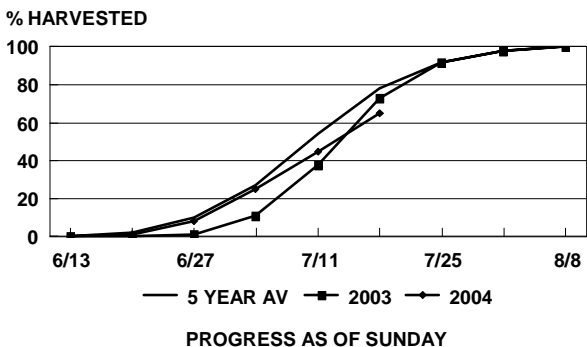
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 18, 2004

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Alfalfa	6	9	25	46	14
Corn	1	2	14	50	33
Oats	11	11	22	45	11
Sorghum	0	2	24	54	20
Soybeans	1	4	15	60	20

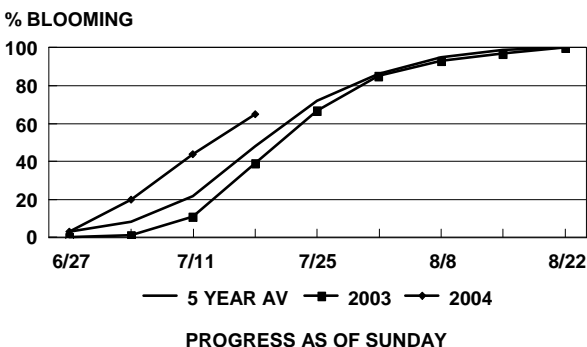
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 10 percent very poor, 15 poor, 29 fair, 38 good, and 8 excellent, below a year ago but above average.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm. For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2004.htm>.

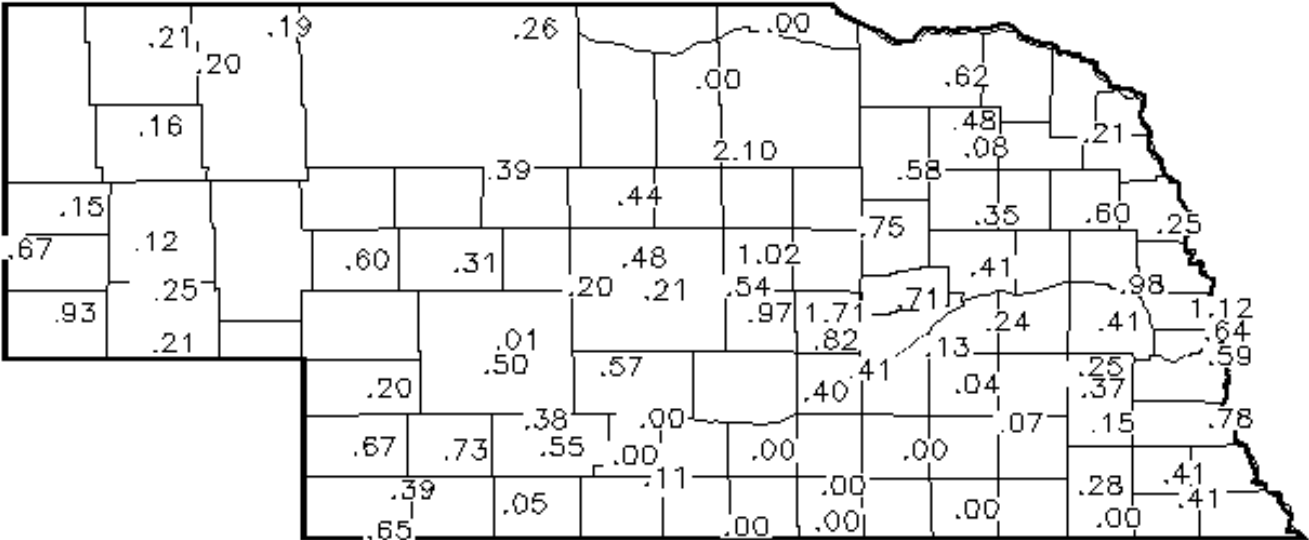
WHEAT



SOYBEANS



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending July 18, 2004



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - July 18, 2004

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.48	.39	.46	.64	.47	.33	.05	.20
Total since April 1	6.86	11.03	14.52	11.93	12.00	11.78	12.37	13.18
Normal since April 1	9.14	10.85	12.53	11.82	13.00	10.53	11.53	13.21
Total as % of normal	74%	101%	115%	101%	92%	111%	107%	99%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, July 18, 2004

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	99	54	75	+2	155	1162	1305
	Scottsbluff	99	54	76	+3	158	1285	1304
	Sidney	98	55	76	+2	156	1213	1347
NC	Ainsworth	98	60	77	+1	174	1284	1501
	Arthur	95	60	76	+1	166	1221	1430
	O'Neill	95	57	75	-1	162	1299	1536
NE	Concord	92	58	73	-4	159	1344	1590
	Elgin	90	60	74	-2	166	1351	1564
	West Point	90	57	73	-4	162	1456	1658
C	Grand Island	92	61	76	-1	165	1523	1558
	Lexington	96	61	78	+2	180	1561	1521
	Ord	96	61	76	-1	168	1424	1540
EC	Lincoln	95	60	76	-3	176	1670	1716
	Central City	91	60	75	-2	170	1539	1584
	Mead	90	57	74	-5	163	1583	1701
SW	Champion	95	57	75	0	161	1396	1452
	North Platte	99	57	76	+2	169	1444	1477
	Curtis	98	61	78	2	176	1515	1482
SC	Arapahoe	95	55	75	0	159	1248	1427
	Minden	92	63	77	0	176	1562	1542
	Red Cloud	96	62	78	+1	180	1638	1576
SE	Beatrice	94	57	76	-3	170	1674	1716
	Clay Center	92	60	75	-1	170	1533	1573
	Nemaha	92	59	76	-3	174	1733	1736

Source: High Plains Climate Center.